

Council Chambers
Monongahela, PA
January 13, 2016

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Monongahela, due notice of which meeting was published according to law, held Wednesday January 13, 2016 at 7 P.M. in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kepics who led in the pledge to the flag.

The roll was called and the following present:

Bob Kepics
Tom Caudill
Al Veliky
Ken Kulak
Daryl Miller

Public Forum:

Michelle Parnell, 31 Decker Street, read a statement regarding the benefits of backyard chickens and asked council to remove the definition of chickens as livestock.

Amy Bozic, 1321 Fourth Street, referring to the letter she received from the city informing her to remove her chickens in 20 days, she said she agreed with the statement read by Michelle Parnell to remove the definition of chickens as livestock from the city ordinance.

Matti Gruzs, 314 Fourth Street, informed council that the Uniontown Poultry Association volunteered to come to the library to teach a class on caring for chickens. She also said the library needs help as several board members will be resigning and asked the city to post on its website for volunteers and asked that the city refrain from doing any work near the polling places at election time.

Steve Seman, 218 West Main Street, said he had chickens when he moved to town in 2000 and had to remove them also. He feels that by allowing chickens, it would eliminate the burden on the code enforcement officer.

Frank Filipcic, 613 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ohio Street, asked if the city would be sending an engineer to check the project on Ohio Street before it is completed. He said that the DEP conducted a study in 2004 on a sinkhole and told the city at that time that it was caused by a leaky drain pipe. Mayor Kepics said he was unaware of this. Councilman Kulak said the project will be reviewed before completion.

Zack Bozic, 1321 Fourth Street, presented a petition asking that the ordinance be amended to allow chickens.

Terry Necciai, 400 Meade Street, thanked council for the facade grant and said that 13 projects will need to be done to complete the grant.

Paula Leech, 1023 Marne Avenue, complained about her trash pick-up in that Big's Sanitation is tearing up her yard when they make turns in the alley by her home. She said they are very disrespectful when she calls them and they have not complied with her requests. Mayor Kepics said he would meet with Big's and asked the solicitor to check their contract.

Chad DeSantis, Lawton Street, said he is in favor of allowing chickens in the city and asked the status of 1135 Lawton Street. Nothing has been done to board up the house after the fire. The Neighborhood Watch Program is underway with meetings the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M. Ward captains are still needed for the 1st & 2nd wards.

Mayor Kepics said he has done research on allowing chickens and is in favor of an amendment to the zoning ordinance to allow 4 hens and no roosters. The Solicitor said he would review the ordinance and report to council. A public hearing would have to be held and the entire process could take 4 to 6 months. Councilman Veliky said he would like a reprieve on the letters that were sent out until such time as a determination can be made.

Report of City Clerk:

Police Report

It was recommended and so moved by Mayor Kepics, seconded by Councilman Miller, the Police Report be approved, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics
Tom Caudill
Al Veliky
Ken Kulak
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Code Enforcement Report

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Veliky, seconded by Mayor Kepics, the Code Enforcement Report be approved, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics
Tom Caudill
Al Veliky
Ken Kulak
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Letter of resignation was read from Mona Rae Williams from the Planning Commission.

It was recommended and so moved by Mayor Kepics, seconded by Councilman Miller, the letter of resignation from Mona Rae Williams from the Planning Commission be accepted, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics
Tom Caudill
Al Veliky
Ken Kulak
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Report of Mayor Kepics:

Asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of December 9 and December 22, 2016. There being none, the minutes were approved.

Report of Accounts & Finance:

Councilman Caudill stated that it was very difficult to cut back the amount the city contributes to the Monongahela Library. Matti Gruzs said that Monongahela is the biggest supporter of the Library and they are in the process of petitioning Ringgold again for their support.

Report of Public Safety:

Councilman Veliky read the Planning Commission Recommendation from its public hearing held on January 5, 2016. The request was for an application of a site plan review for land development of new buildings and parking lot at 158 and 162 West Main Street. Councilman Caudill questioned the parking that was discussed at city council's work session. Police Chief asked how the city would determine the compact car spaces such as painting lines or measuring cars. Councilman Kulak said he would prefer that lines be painted as an average compact car is 16-18 feet in length.

It was recommended and so moved by Councilman Veliky, seconded by Mayor Kepics, that the city accept the Planning Commission recommendation to accept the applicants site plan for land development at 158 and 162 West Main Street for a no left turn for vehicles exiting the parking lot, a possible no left turn for vehicles on Main Street attempting to turn onto the parking area, and that further study needs to be made and information gathered from the police department as to if the two compact car spaces are permitted and that they will not cause a danger or congestion in travel and transportation, and the same was agreed to by the following was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Abstain

Bob Kepics
Tom Caudill
Al Veliky
Daryl Miller

Ken Kulak

Total Yeas 4

Abstain 1

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Councilman Veliky introduced Assistant Fire Chief Aaron Benney to present the 2015 year end report of the fire department.

Report of Streets & Improvements:

Councilman Kulak informed council that Ohio Street is still under construction and that letters of interest for the vacancy on the city Planning Commission can be submitted.

Report of Parks & Property:

Councilman Miller asked council to approve a part time on call person for snow removal and summer help for grass cutting, etc. Councilman Caudill said he would like a discussion on this approval for job description and salary.

It was recommended and so moved by Mayor Kepics, seconded by Councilman Miller, all properly and approved bills be paid, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

Yeas

Bob Kepics
Tom Caudill
Al Veliky
Ken Kulak
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5

Nays 0

It was recommended and so moved by Mayor Kepics, seconded by Councilman Miller, council adjourn, and the same was agreed to by the following Yea and Nay vote to the call of the roll by the Clerk:

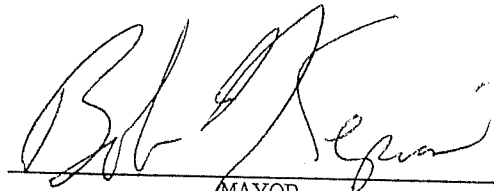
YEAS

Bob Kepics
Tom Caudill
Al Veliky
Ken Kulak
Daryl Miller

Total Yeas 5
Nays 0

The motion having received the majority vote of Council the same was declared carried by Mayor Kepics and so ordered.

Mayor Kepics then declared council adjourned.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK